

NEW ENGLAND NOTES

NOTE ON THE FIRST STATION OF *DENTARIA LACINIATA* MUHL. (BRASSICACEAE) REPORTED FROM MAINE

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Dentaria laciniata occurs in rich woods, wooded bottom lands, and on calcareous rocky hillsides from western Quebec and Vermont west to Minnesota and Nebraska, and south to Florida and Louisiana.

In the spring of 1981, Ruth Ellis and I discovered a small clump of *Dentaria laciniata* growing on a west-facing slope of Westford Hill, Hodgdon (Aroostook Co.), Maine. This species had not been previously reported from the State (Bean, *et al.*, 1966; Critical Areas Program, 1981). Cut-leaf toothwort is rare in New Brunswick (Hinds, 1983), New Hampshire (Storks and Crow, 1978), and Quebec (Bouchard *et al.*, 1983). The only site with proximity to Hodgdon is located in upper Woodstock, New Brunswick, Canada (ca. about 24 km to the northeast).

In June of 1982, Martin Rasmussen (pers. comm.) a botanist from Caribou, Maine, located another small group of plants near our original site on Westford Hill; these individuals were in poor condition and about to die for the season.

Mapping of the population was undertaken for the Maine Critical Areas Program in May of 1983; the *D. laciniata* site was calculated to occupy about 5 ha on the west and south slopes of Westford Hill. The population is large, numbering thousands of individuals, patchily distributed over the steeper rocky portions of the hill. Two voucher specimens were collected for deposition in the herbaria of the University of Maine (MAINE) and the New England Botanical Club (NEBC).

Dentaria laciniata is an early blooming ephemeral, dying down before tree leaves appear. At the Hodgdon site, *D. laciniata* dominates the herbaceous vegetation on the disintegrating calcareous slopes. It grows under a *Quercus rubra*/*Acer saccharum* canopy, and is commonly associated with *Dicentra cucullaria*, *Claytonia caroliniana*, *Trillium erectum* and *Erythronium americanum*.

D. laciniata is not rare south of Maine. After consultation with many botanists, the site in Hodgdon remains the single known Maine station for this species. The site is a Registered Critical Area.

LITERATURE CITED

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